

AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

Amend claims 1-9 and add new claims 10-15 as follows:

1. (currently amended) A process for ~~the~~ a catalytic conversion of fuel for removing oxides of nitrogen from exhaust gases of internal combustion engines, in which fuel and a part-stream of the exhaust gas or of ~~the~~ an intake air are converted in a converter, wherein the fuel and the part-stream of the exhaust gas or of the intake air are fed separately from one another into the converter and the fuel is vaporized in the converter, wherein the fuel is at least partially oxidized to carboxylic acids and/or carboxylic anhydrides.
2. (currently amended) A ~~The~~ process as claimed in claim ~~±~~ 10, wherein the fuel is dehydrogenated or partially oxidized.
3. (currently amended) The process as claimed in claim ~~±~~ 10, wherein the fuel is at least partially oxidized to carboxylic acids and/or carboxylic anhydrides.
4. (currently amended) A process as claimed in claim 1 wherein the fuel and the part-stream of the exhaust gas or of an intake air, which have been converted in the converter, are ~~for removing oxides of nitrogen from exhaust gases of internal combustion engines, wherein first a process as~~

~~claimed in claim 1 is carried out, and the product stream from the converter is~~ combined with the exhaust gas of the internal combustion engine and ~~is~~ are reacted over a catalyst ~~for the degradation of the oxides of nitrogen in order to remove oxides of nitrogen from exhaust gases of internal combustion engines by their degradation.~~

5. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The process as claimed in claim 4, wherein the reaction for the degradation of the oxides of nitrogen is carried out over ~~a~~ the catalyst whose active material contains no Cr, Mn, Fe, Co, Ni, Ru, Rh, Pd, Ir, Pt or Cu.
6. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The process as claimed in claim 5, wherein the catalyst for the degradation of the oxides of nitrogen contains at least one oxide of a metal of the first to fourth main group of the Periodic Table of the Elements.
7. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The process as claimed in claim 6, wherein the catalyst for the degradation of the oxides of nitrogen contains γ -Al₂O₃.
8. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The process as claimed in claim 4, wherein the product stream obtained after the reaction over the catalyst for the degradation of the oxides of nitrogen is further reacted over a noble metal-containing catalyst.

for an oxidation of the remaining organic compounds.

9. (currently amended) A converter for ~~the~~ a catalytic conversion of fuel, comprising a vaporization space and a conversion space connected thereto, the vaporization space having separate feeds for exhaust gas (or) intake air and fuel, the conversion space having a catalyst for the catalytic conversion of fuel and the vaporization space and the conversion space being connected to one another so that heat transport from the conversion space into the vaporization space is possible.
10. (new) A process for a catalytic conversion of fuel for removing oxides of nitrogen from exhaust gases of internal combustion engines, in which fuel and a part-stream of the exhaust gas are converted in a converter, wherein the fuel and the part-stream of the exhaust gas are fed separately from one another into the converter and the fuel is vaporized in the converter.
11. (new) A process as claimed in claim 3 wherein the fuel and the part-stream of the exhaust gas, which have been converted in the converter, are combined with the exhaust gas of the internal combustion engine and are reacted over a catalyst in order to remove oxides of nitrogen from exhaust

- gases of internal combustion engines by their degradation.
12. (new) The process as claimed in claim 11, wherein the reaction for the degradation of the oxides of nitrogen is carried out over the catalyst whose active material contains no Cr, Mn, Fe, Co, Ni, Ru, Rh, Pd, Ir, Pt or Cu.
13. (new) The process as claimed in claim 12, wherein the catalyst for the degradation of the oxides of nitrogen contains at least one oxide of a metal of the first to fourth main group of the Periodic Table of the Elements.
14. (new) The process as claimed in claim 13, wherein the catalyst for the degradation of the oxides of nitrogen contains γ -Al₂O₃.
15. (new) The process as claimed in claim 11, wherein the product stream obtained after the reaction over the catalyst for the degradation of the oxides of nitrogen is further reacted over a noble metal-containing catalyst for an oxidation of the remaining organic compounds.

COMPLETE LISTING OF ALL CLAIMS

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1. (currently amended) A process for a catalytic conversion of fuel for removing oxides of nitrogen from exhaust gases of internal combustion engines, in which fuel and a part-stream of the exhaust gas or of an intake air are converted in a converter, wherein the fuel and the part-stream of the exhaust gas or of the intake air are fed separately from one another into the converter and the fuel is vaporized in the converter, wherein the fuel is at least partially oxidized to carboxylic acids and/or carboxylic anhydrides.
 2. (currently amended) The process as claimed in claim 10, wherein the fuel is dehydrogenated or partially oxidized.
 3. (currently amended) The process as claimed in claim 10, wherein the fuel is at least partially oxidized to carboxylic acids and/or carboxylic anhydrides.
 4. (currently amended) A process as claimed in claim 1 wherein the fuel and the part-stream of the exhaust gas or of an intake air, which have been converted in the converter, are combined with the exhaust gas of the internal combustion engine and is are reacted over a catalyst in order to remove oxides of nitrogen from exhaust gases of internal combustion engines by their degradation.
 5. (currently amended) The process as claimed in claim 4, wherein the reaction for the degradation of the oxides of nitrogen is carried out over the catalyst whose active material contains no Cr, Mn, Fe, Co, Ni, Ru, Rh, Pd, Ir, Pt or Cu.
 6. (currently amended) The process as claimed in claim 5, wherein the catalyst for the

degradation of the oxides of nitrogen contains at least one oxide of a metal of the first to fourth main group of the Periodic Table of the Elements.

7. (currently amended) The process as claimed in claim 6, wherein the catalyst for the degradation of the oxides of nitrogen contains $\gamma\text{-Al}_2\text{O}_3$.

8. (currently amended) The process as claimed in claim 4, wherein the product stream obtained after the reaction over the catalyst for the degradation of the oxides of nitrogen is further reacted over a noble metal-containing catalyst for an oxidation of the remaining organic compounds.

ay. 9. (currently amended) A converter for a catalytic conversion of fuel, comprising a vaporization space and a conversion space connected thereto, the vaporization space having separate feeds for exhaust gas or intake air and fuel, the conversion space having a catalyst for the catalytic conversion of fuel and the vaporization space and the conversion space being connected to one another so that heat transport from the conversion space into the vaporization space is possible.

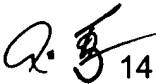
as 10. (new) A process for a catalytic conversion of fuel for removing oxides of nitrogen from exhaust gases of internal combustion engines, in which fuel and a part-stream of the exhaust gas are converted in a converter, wherein the fuel and the part-stream of the exhaust gas are fed separately from one another into the converter and the fuel is vaporized in the converter.

11. (new) A process as claimed in claim 3 wherein the fuel and the part-stream of the

exhaust gas, which have been converted in the converter, are combined with the exhaust gas of the internal combustion engine and are reacted over a catalyst in order to remove oxides of nitrogen from exhaust gases of internal combustion engines by their degradation.

12. (new) The process as claimed in claim 11, wherein the reaction for the degradation of the oxides of nitrogen is carried out over the catalyst whose active material contains no Cr, Mn, Fe, Co, Ni, Ru, Rh, Pd, Ir, Pt or Cu.

13. (new) The process as claimed in claim 12, wherein the catalyst for the degradation of the oxides of nitrogen contains at least one oxide of a metal of the first to fourth main group of the Periodic Table of the Elements.

 14. (new) The process as claimed in claim 13, wherein the catalyst for the degradation of the oxides of nitrogen contains $\gamma\text{-Al}_2\text{O}_3$.

15. (new) The process as claimed in claim 11, wherein the product stream obtained after the reaction over the catalyst for the degradation of the oxides of nitrogen is further reacted over a noble metal-containing catalyst for an oxidation of the remaining organic compounds.
